GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1901
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2016
GMDC's Mining Lease Application
Patil Shri Chandrakant Raghunath

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware of Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited"s mining lease application for lignite and limestone over an area of 3319 hectare in Kutch District and the Ministry of Mines has already conveyed its approval for relaxation of section 6(i)B of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 for grant of mining lease for lime stone over the area in 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has not conveyed its approval for mining of lignite in that area as the proposal of the State Government for mining lignite and limestone was forwarded much before the MMDR Amendment Act, 2010 made effective; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the approval is likely to be given in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d): Proposals from the State Government of Gujarat for prior approval on Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited's mining lease application for lignite in the district of Kutch were received. However, since the area for which prior approval for mining lease was requested by the Government of Gujarat were not allocated as per the procedure then prevailing, that is, either through Screening Committee or Government Dispensation route, no prior approval for mining lease for lignite in favour of Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited was granted by the Central Government to Government of Gujarat.

As far as mining lease for limestone is concerned, Ministry of Mines had received proposal in the year 2009 from Government of Gujarat for relaxation of the subject area under Section 6(1)(b) of the then Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 for Lime Stone over an area of 3319 hectares in LakhpatDhedhdi Village, District Kutch in favour of Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited. Approval of the Central Government in this regard was conveyed on 22.04.2010 in favour of Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited.

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